NEW RESEARCH IN THE TUMULARY NECROPOLIS AT POIANA

Silvia TEODOR

The research of the tumulary necropolis contemporary with the fifth level of the Gothic-Dacian settlement situated on "Cetățuia" at Poiana village, Nicoreşti commune, Galaţi County, began in 1928, 1931 when two tumuli were systematically excavated and another to a certain extent. In 1989 the research was continued with the investigation of other tumuli.

As a result it came out that all tumuli had tombs of incineration on the place. The funerary pyre was identified thanks to the existence of a platform of intensely burnt earth covered by rests of coal and ashes, in which we found only few burnt and calcined bones and pieces of inventory. In one case these remains were disposed in a pit dug in the middle of the pyre place. A protecting bed of clean clay covered those pieces. The mound was raised over all described above, and in its cloak tombs of incineration in urn still were present, many of them being devastated over the times. We also found many archaeological vestiges, the fragments of wheel made gray pottery and Greek amphorae being prevalent. The funeral inventory of the researched tomb consists of late Latène fibulae of Nauheim and Knotenfibeln types, glass beads, rings and mirrors of bronze and silver, fragments of glass and fine ceramic vases.

In the last tumulus that was investigated in 1989 we found an iron spur bronze buttons, natural pearls, fragments of Nauheim fibulae, fragments of a glass tumbler, an iron little pail and a fragment of a mask representing the upper part of a lion head with the ears and the hair gilt with gold. The pieces date this tomb between the 1st century BC and the 1st century AD.

The necropolis at Poiana belongs to the type of burials with the incineration of the corpses on place, having analogies at Lăceni, Orbeasca de Sus, Popeşti Piscul Crăsani in the Southern Dacia, as well as along the Siret valley, in the davae at Brad and Răcătău. No kind of treasure was disposed into these tombs, unlike the older tumulary necropoleis, tough the new ones also belonged to the proeminent members of the respective communities. The tombs in urn within the cloak of the mounds of "Cetățuia" ("The Little Citadele") as well as others, all of them being devastated, belonged to the common people who did not afford to have a tumulary tomb.